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INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Rapporteur: Ms. Riitta RESCH (Finland)

1. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 19 September 1997, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations" and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. At its 2nd meeting, on 30 September 1997, the Fourth Committee decided to hold a general debate covering agenda items 18, 90, 91, 92 and 12 and 93, on the understanding that individual proposals on matters covered by those items would be considered separately. The general debate on the items was held at the 3rd to 7th meetings, on 6, 8, 9, 10 and 13 October (see A/C.4/52/SR.3-7). The Committee took action on item 90 at its 9th meeting, on 27 October (see A/C.4/52/SR.9).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting



of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/52/23 (Part IV), chap. VIII):¹

(b) Report of the Secretary-General (A/52/365).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

4. At the 3rd meeting, on 6 October, the Rapporteur of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples made a statement in which he gave an account of the relevant activities of the Special Committee during 1997 and drew attention to chapter VIII of the report of that Committee (see A/52/23 (Part IV)) containing, *inter alia*, the related draft resolution submitted by the Special Committee for the consideration of the Fourth Committee.

5. At its 9th meeting, on 27 October, the Fourth Committee adopted the draft resolution contained in paragraph 9 of chapter VIII of the report of the Special Committee (see A/51/23 (Part IV)) by a recorded vote of 134 to none, with 4 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:²

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua and New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic

¹ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/51/23).

² Subsequently, the delegation of Kazakhstan indicated that, had it been present during the voting, it would have voted in favour.

of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America (see A/C.4/52/SR.9).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)

7. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations¹ and the action taken by the Special Committee in respect of that information,

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,²

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also its resolution 51/139 of 13 December 1996, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

¹ A/52/23 (Part IV), chap. VIII.

² A/52/365.

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 e of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

1. Approves the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. Reaffirms that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

3. Requests the administering Powers concerned to transmit or continue to transmit to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 e of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

5. Requests the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session.
